

The City Council of Boulder, CO, has been fortunate to have had Spenser Havlick as a member for the past 21 years. On behalf of Boulder's residents, I wish him well as he continues to pursue his commitment to a better community and State.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. MIKE MCINTYRE

OF NORTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, November 19, 2003

Mr. MCINTYRE. Mr. Speaker, on Thursday, November 6, 2003, I was unavoidably absent for rollcall vote 612, final passage of H.R. 1829, the Federal Prison Industries Competition in Contracting Act. Had I been present I would have voted "yes" on rollcall vote 612.

HONORING JEROME HOLTZMAN

HON. HENRY J. HYDE

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, November 19, 2003

Mr. HYDE. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize Jerome Holtzman, who on November 20 will receive the prestigious Chicago Athletic Association Ring Lardner Award. Jerome Holtzman has forgotten more about baseball than most will ever know and he is well deserving of the award. Chicago Sun-Times sports columnist Ron Rapoport honored Mr. Holtzman in his column on November 11—a column I am pleased to share with my colleagues:

FOR HIS SCOOPS AND SAVES, HOLTZMAN
AWARDED HONOR

The major exhibit in Jerome Holtzman's baseball legacy always will be his invention of the save rule, but my favorite story about him is the time he scooped the judge.

Charlie Finley was suing baseball commissioner Bowie Kuhn, and Holtzman, who had covered every day of the trial for the Sun-Times, got the word that Finley had lost. Holtzman rushed the story into the last edition of the paper, which so infuriated people at the Tribune, they roused the judge out of bed after midnight to demand some information.

"But I haven't even written the decision yet," the judge protested.

Holtzman, who receives the Chicago Athletic Association's Ring Lardner Award on November 20, and I tried to figure out Monday how many baseball games he has covered in his life. The best we could come up with was about 200 a year for 28 years and maybe 100 a year for the decade after that. So how many is that—7,000 or 8,000? A lot, anyway.

"We never had any days off," said Holtzman, who joined the old Chicago Times as a copy boy in 1943, before it merged with the Sun. "Maybe if I didn't go to the All-Star Game, I'd have a two- or three-day break, but otherwise it was every game from spring training to the World Series."

Holtzman was more than just a sports-writer, though. He became our trade's historian, with his classic book "No Cheering in the Press Box" and his beautifully bound reprints of sports books, such as "Eight Men Out, The Boys of Summer and Babe."

When Holtzman invented the save rule, he received a bonus of \$100 or \$200 from The Sporting News. The best closers soon became

rich men because their performances came with numbers attached. Or as former Expos relief ace Jeff Reardon once said, "Jerome Holtzman is a friend of mine."

Mine, too.

The Lardner Awards dinner will be a star-studded affair, with David Halberstam presenting an award to Bob Costas, Ira Berkow giving Holtzman his plaque and Bill Jaus honoring former Chicago Daily News sports editor John Carmichael.

HIV/AIDS EPIDEMIC IN DALLAS-FORT WORTH AREA

HON. EDDIE BERNICE JOHNSON

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, November 19, 2003

Ms. EDDIE BERNICE JOHNSON of Texas. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to address the steady meteoric rise of the deadly epidemic of HIV/AIDS in the Dallas-Fort Worth area. The HIV/AIDS epidemic is proving to be one of the most devastating social conditions of our time.

In my home state of Texas, the numbers have been steadily rising since 1998 at a rate of about 7 percent per year. In fact, according to the Texas Department of Health, Dallas County reported the highest number of new HIV positive individuals in Texas, that's just ahead of Harris County (which includes Houston) which reported 1,212 new HIV cases.

So far in 2003, Dallas County has reported 609 new HIV cases and 355 new AIDS cases. Moreover, so much work needs to be done to inform the public about this disease's disproportionate impact on African Americans.

Dallas County Health and Human Services chief epidemiologist announced that there were 1,271 new HIV cases and 548 new AIDS cases reported in 2002. African Americans, comprise 20 percent of the Dallas County population, but 41 percent of the new HIV cases and 46 percent of the new AIDS cases in 2003.

As reported by the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC), although African Americans make up only about 12 percent on the U.S. population, cumulatively they have accounted for half of the new HIV infections reported in the United States in 2001.

African Americans have accounted for more than 320,000, or 38 percent, of the more than 833,000 estimated AIDS cases diagnosed since the beginning of the epidemic. In addition to experiencing historically higher rates of HIV infection, African Americans continue to face challenges in accessing health care, prevention services, and treatment. Race and ethnicity are not, themselves, risk factors for HIV infection. However, African Americans are more likely to face challenges associated with risk for HIV infection, including poverty, denial and discrimination, partners at risk, substance abuse, and sexually transmitted disease connection.

Globally more than 16 million people have died of AIDS and more than 16,000 people become newly infected each day.

It is imperative for us to take immediate steps to address these alarming statistics. As a former nurse and Chair of the Congressional Black Caucus, I supported funding increases for the Minority AIDS Initiative and the Housing Opportunities for Persons, which is the only federal housing program that provides

comprehensive, community-based HIV-specific housing programs.

I have always supported the four main lines of action created by an International Partnership against AIDS: encouraging visible and sustained political support; helping to develop nationally negotiated joint plans of action; increasing financial resources; and strengthening national and regional technical capacity.

We must make an ongoing commitment toward working diligently to find a cure for this very fatal epidemic. We must strongly encourage more widespread support for those who are living with this horrifying disease.

CONFERENCE REPORT ON H.R. 6, ENERGY POLICY ACT OF 2003

SPEECH OF

HON. JOHN CONYERS, JR.

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, November 18, 2003

Mr. CONYERS. Mr. Speaker, for the first time in history Congress has voted to protect known polluters from legal liability. H.R. 6, the "Energy Policy Act of 2003", not only implements a restructured energy system that would harm consumers and provide unaffordable subsidies to energy companies, but Title XV of the bill, the Ethanol and Motor Fuels title, would particularly immunize the producers of a toxic contaminant from liability for its effects on those people who have been harmed by it. These provisions were unilaterally inserted into the conference report without the benefit of a single committee hearing or markup.

MTBE (methyl tertiary butyl ether) has been classified by the EPA as a possible human carcinogen and can render water undrinkable in concentrations as low as two parts per billion. Due to the synthetic chemical properties of MTBE, when it leaks into water, it moves and dissolves through water rapidly, resists natural degradation, and causes water to take on the taste and smell of turpentine. According to the General Accounting Office, MTBE, a chemical which has been shown to cause liver damage, kidney damage, and even cancer in humans, has now been detected in the groundwater and drinking water in every state in the nation.

The Ethanol and Motor Fuels title in H.R. 6 contains an outright and retroactive liability waiver for MTBE producers that knowingly polluted the tap water of millions of Americans. Specifically, the title would:

Protect responsible parties from liability—The title would give MTBE producers a special liability waiver from strict product liability suits. Because these strict product liability suits have been the only effective measure of holding MTBE producers accountable for polluting public water supplies, denying water districts and city and county governments the right to bring defective product lawsuits against the MTBE polluters would effectively end their accountability.

Shift cleanup costs to taxpayers—The MTBE provisions in the bill would shift the burden of paying for the cleanup of the polluted water to the water consumers. An estimated \$29 billion in clean up costs will fall squarely on states, cities, and their citizens. MTBE manufacturers and gasoline companies will